



Omega Tau Fraternity

West Texas State College

Petitioning

Kappa Kappa Psi

National Honorary Band Fraternity

Petition

We, the members of the Omega Tau Honorary Band Fraternity, do hereby petition the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity for membership.

The members of this organization are continually striving for the betterment of music on the West Texas State College Campus, and for the advancement of musical appreciation in the student body as a whole. We feel certain that membership in the national fraternity will further our mutual interest—that is, the furtherance of the college band as a medium of musical expression.

William D. Sutton
Ray T. Nickerson
Joe E. Merriam
William E. Tregoe
Elmer L. McKee
Wallace A. Goodman
Ludie E. Talbot Jr.
Richard E. Miller
Herscott L. Allen
Herold Acanis
William W. Myller
William C. Hutchinson Jr.

Petition

We, the members of the Omega Tau Honorary Band Fraternity, do hereby petition the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity for membership.

The members of this organization are continually striving for the betterment of music on the West Texas State College Campus, and for the advancement of musical appreciation in the student body as a whole. We feel certain that membership in the national fraternity will further our mutual interest—that is, the furtherance of the college band as a medium of musical expression.

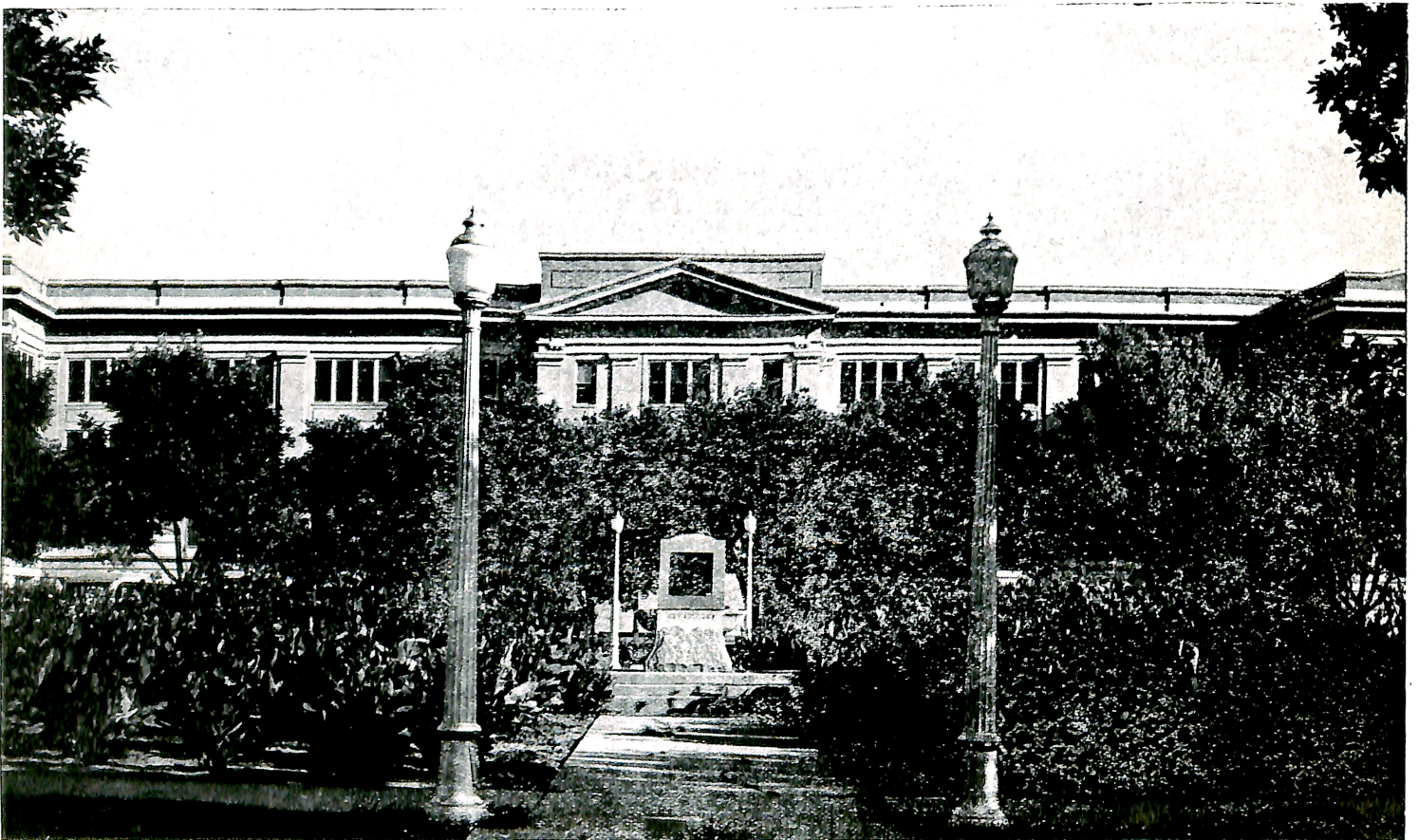
William D. Latson
Ray T. Nickerson
Joe E. Merriamson
William E. Tregoe
Edmund L. McKee
Wallace A. Goodman
Leslie E. Talbent Jr.
Richard E. Wilton
Herbert L. Allen
Sherrad Davis
William W. Miller
William C. Hutchinson Jr.

Two Main Buildings on W. T. Campus



The West Texas State Education building is the home of most liberal arts activities. It serves also as the demonstration high school.

The Administration Building is one of the most magnificent educational buildings in Texas. A gym, auditorium, swimming pool, and library are housed in its spacious interior along with many classrooms and offices.



History of the College

On March 31, 1909, the Governor of Texas signed a legislative bill which created the West Texas State College, appropriated \$50,000 for a plant, and set up a committee consisting of the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to select a site west of the 98th meridian. After much investigation, the committee selected Canyon, then a frontier town of 1,400 population. The State Board of Education was given jurisdiction over the college and soon chose the then State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hon. R. B. Cousins, as president. A two-story, over basement, semi-fireproof, all-purpose building nearly 300 feet in length, was erected.

President Cousins, in the meantime, organized a tentative curriculum and began the selection of a faculty. When this faculty was completed it consisted of sixteen men and women, most of whom were Texans who had attained some distinction in teaching and school administration. It is a notable fact that four out of the original sixteen later became college presidents. The first session opened September 20, 1910 with an enrollment of 217 students—a lusty start for a college located in a very sparsely populated area where there was only one accredited high school within a radius of 200 miles.

On March 25, 1914, the main building went up in smoke—a major catastrophe, it looked. But in April, 1916, the present administration building—then the largest and most substantial school house in Texas—was completed at a cost of \$300,000. It was thought that the structure would be ample for all time to come.

On September 1, 1918, J. A. Hill, for eight years head of the history department and a member of the first faculty, became president and has continued in that capacity to the present time. Under President Hill's supervision the first housing facility ever erected on a teachers college campus in Texas was erected. During the depression years more buildings were built to add to the facilities of higher education in West Texas. The Panhandle Plains Historical Museum was built during that period and it has been a source of inspiration to citizens of the Panhandle since that time. Some of the later major structures are the Education Building, the Science Building, the Shop Building, and the Outdoor Swimming Pool.

Certainly the people of the West Texas region can be proud of the school's growth, and may expect more in the future.

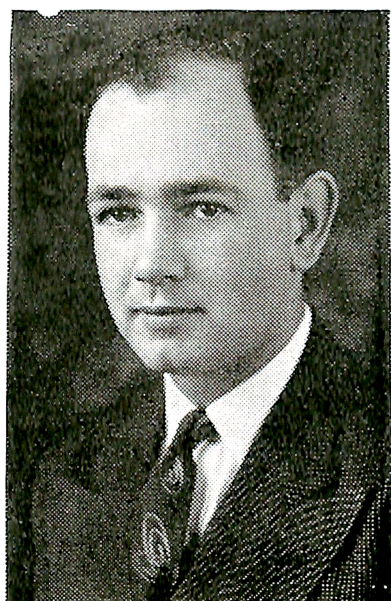
History of the Buffalo Band

The Buffalo Band has been an important factor in school activities since Dr. W. R. Clark became head of the music department in the fall of 1917. During the first world war the Buffalo Band was part of the army training program on this campus. Dr. Clark, with a student assistant, directed the organization.

With the activities of the music department becoming more complex with the influx of students after World War I, Dr. Clark saw the necessity of creating a separate post for the job of band director and, after considering several applications, picked Mr. W. B. Brothers for the job. Mr. Brothers remained with the institution two years before Mr. C. E. Strain became the director.

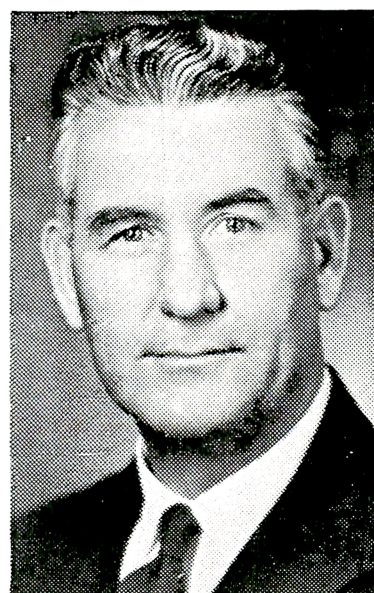
Mr. Strain was band director for many years and was beloved on the campus, but in 1942, after many successful years, he retired. Mr. M. J. Newman, then director of an excellent high school band, was chosen for the job. In June, 1944, Mr. Newman became a part of the navy and in his absence Mr. Glenn A. Truax became director of the band. The man shortage during the blackest part of the war compelled Mr. Truax to rely on few men with a great majority of women.

Mr. Newman returned to West Texas State with the close of the war and started work on an intensive band program with an emphasis on concert work. The school year starting in 1946 was the most successful in the history of the school, but more important is the foundation laid for the Buffalo Band of Tomorrow.



Mr. M. J. Newman

*West Texas State
College Band
Department*



Mr. Glenn A. Truax

Mr. Millard J. Newman, the director of the West Texas State Buffalo Band, started his college education in 1930 in the University of Iowa and in 1932 attended Iowa State Teachers College where he received his degree in music.

After his graduation he taught for five years in the State of Iowa before he came to the Panhandle of Texas in 1939. His first Texas job was at McLean where he served as high school band director. After three successful years in McLean he became band director of the Borger, Texas, high school band. In the fall of 1943 he was selected as band director at West Texas State.

In June of 1944 Mr. Newman took a leave of absence from West Texas State to enter the U. S. Navy. He served 27 months in the service including time in the Southwest Pacific. He received his discharge in time to resume his position at West Texas State in the fall of 1946.

Mr. Newman did his graduate work at the University of Southern California and at the University of Iowa.

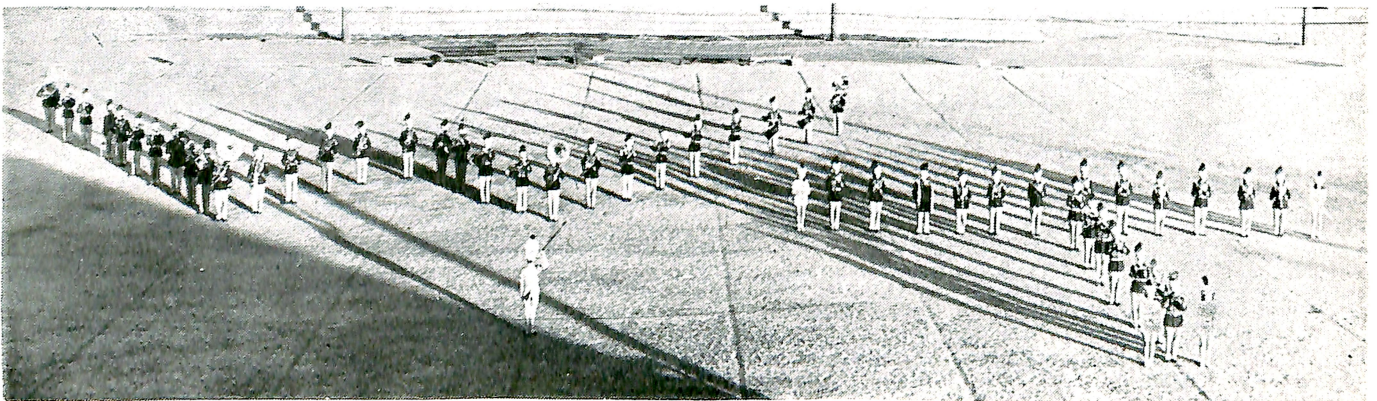
Mr. G. A. Truax, past director of the Buffalo Band and present director of the college orchestra, choir and string instrumentation, started his music education in the Winfield School of Music before World War I, and played in an army band stationed in France during the war. On his discharge from the service he entered Kansas State Teachers College where he received his degree in 1925 with a major in violin and voice. After his graduation Mr. Truax taught in Kansas and Washington State before coming to Texas. He was director of the famous Irish Band of Shamrock, Texas, and was influential in starting the famous St. Patrick's Day celebration in that city featuring a pre-contest marching event for high school bands.

In 1942 he became a member of the faculty of North Texas State College as instructor of instrumental music in the public schools of Denton, and band and orchestra director in the demonstration school. In February, 1945, he became Band director of the Buffalo Band and remained in that capacity until the fall of 1946 when he became orchestra, choir and string director.

He is co-sponsor of the local band fraternity.



The West Texas State All-Boy Band is fast becoming famous in the Panhandle for its appearances with the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce on its good will trade trips.



The marching band in one of its football formations. The band appears at all home games and at important out-of-town games.

Buffalo Band Activities

Realizing its duty to be of service to the school, the Buffalo Band takes part in varied activities throughout the year.

First in the year is its participation in football games, furnishing entertainment during the half. In 1946 the band accompanied the football team to Abilene, Texas, for the game. Its greatest importance, however, is at the home games. During the homecoming celebration the band sponsored the State Marching Contest with thirty bands participating.

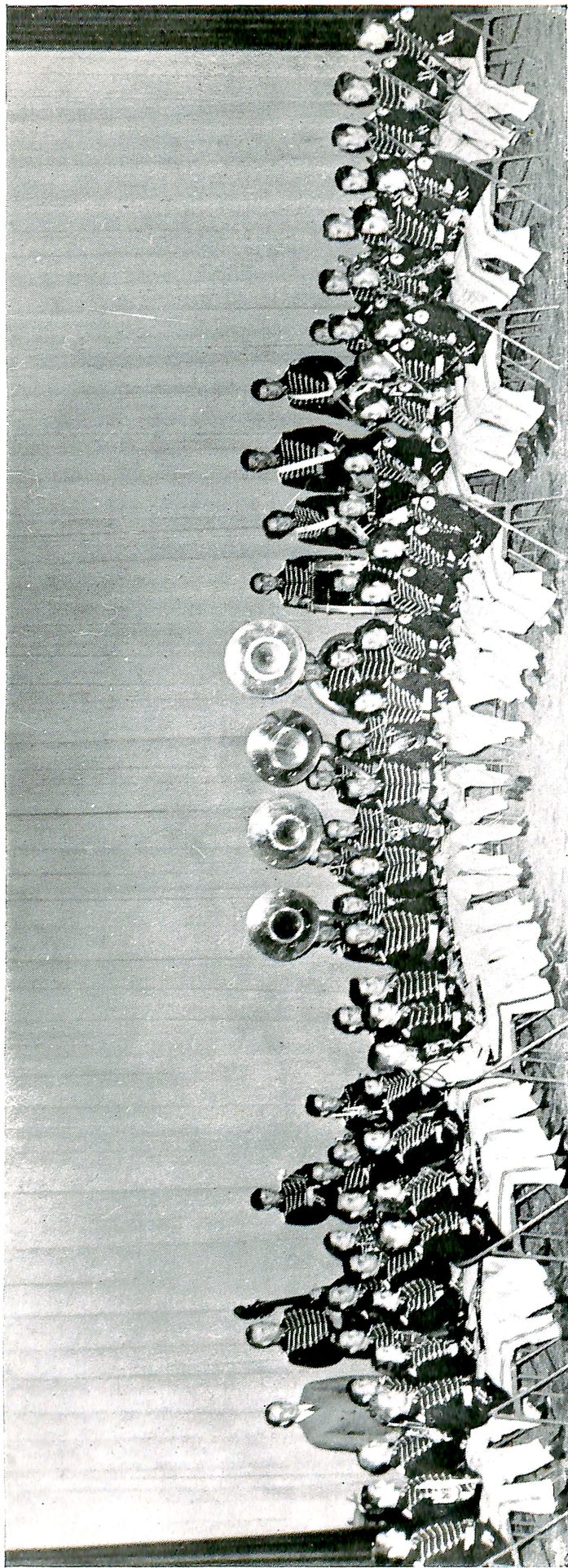
In the way of public service the All-Boy Band of West Texas State went with the Chamber of Commerce of Amarillo, Texas, on its trips to foster better relations among the cities of the Panhandle area. On three trips in four states, the band visited and played in over sixty cities.

One of the greatest highlights of the year is the West Texas Annual Band Clinic for the bands of the Panhandle. At the clinic the band students have the opportunity to play with musicians from other cities thus gaining valuable experience. The director of the 1947 clinic was Max O. Mitchell of Oklahoma A. & M. college.

At all times the Buffalo Band remembers its duty to furnish good musical entertainment for its own student body. In fulfilling that responsibility it presents annual concerts. Those concerts are very popular on the campus.

Buffalo Band Supporters

The West Texas State Buffalo Band enjoys support from many sources. The Amarillo Chamber of Commerce offers its support through the trade trips wherein the band receives much valuable publicity. The West Texas State Activities Committee, a group of interested supporters of the Texas Panhandle, give immeasurable assistance in furthering the welfare of the band. The popularity of the band in Canyon is evidenced by the many invitations it receives to participate in activities of the civic clubs.



CONCERT BAND INSTRUMENTATION

BRASS

- 2 1st Cornets
- 2 2nd Cornets
- 2 3rd Cornets
- 2 4th Cornets
- 5 Trombones
- 3 Baritones
- 4 French Horns
- 4 Bass Sousaphones

STRINGS

- 1 Bass Viol

PERCUSSION

- 1 Bass Drum
- 1 Symbal
- 2 Snare Drums
- 1 Tympani etc.

REEDS

- 4 1st Clarinets
- 4 2nd Clarinets
- 4 4th Clarinets
- 1 E-flat Clarinet
- 1 Oboe
- 1 Bassoon
- 1 Tenor Sax
- 2 Alto Saxes
- 1 Baritone Sax
- 1 Bass Clarinet
- 5 Flutes and Piccolos

W. T. S. C. Concert Band

4th Annual H. S. Band Clinic

PROGRAM

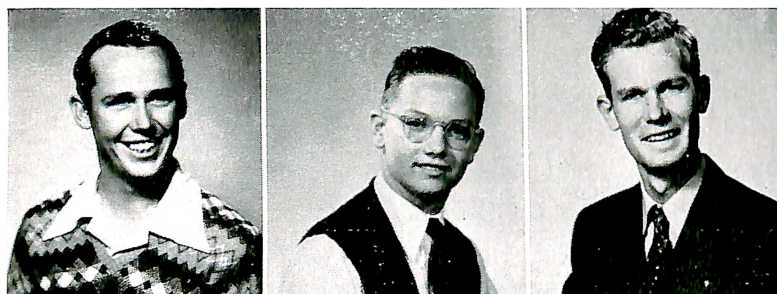
1. Thunder and Blazes, March J. Fucik
2. The Barber of Seville G. Rossini
3. Prelude and Fugue in G Minor J. S. Smith
4. La Mandolinati Herman Bellstedt
Max A. Mitchell, Oklahoma A. & M., Soloist
5. Malaguena E. Lecuona
6. Cowboy Rhapsody Morton Gould
7. Repartee David Bennett
Matilda Gaume, W. T. S. C., Soloist
8. March Modernistic Edwards

1947 SPRING CONCERT

W. T. S. C. Concert Band

1. All Glory Be to God on High J. S. Bach
2. Merry Wives of Windsor Nicolai
3. Finale From the New World Symphony Dvorak
4. Porgy and Bess Selection Gershwin
arr. by R. R. Bennet
5. Reverie Debussy
6. Three Trombonists C. W. Johnson
William Latson, William Miller, Dick McSune, Soloists
7. Love Scene From Boris Godounov Moussorgsky
8. March, From the Love of Three Oranges Prokofieff
9. Lithuanian Rhapsody Scarmolin
10. Deep Purple DeRose
11. Texas Plains Sassoday

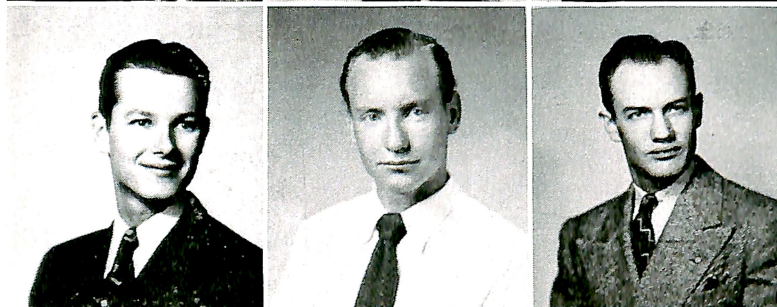
Members of Omega Tau Band Fraternity



W. O. LATSON, Pres.
Major: Band
Trombone

W. W. MILLER, Vice Pres.
Major: Band
Trombone

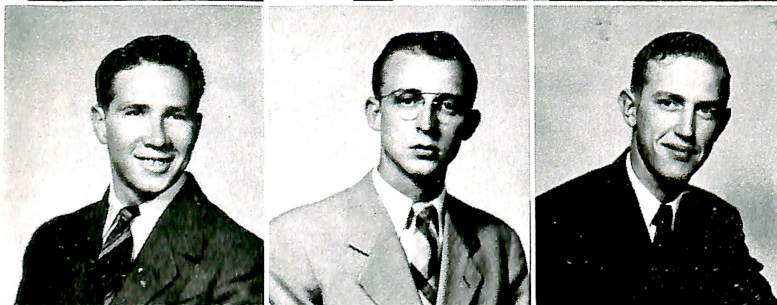
JOE MERRIMAN, Sec.
Major: Business
Clarinet



RICHARD MILLER, Treas.
Major: Business
Cornet

RAY NICKELSON
Major: Band
Cornet

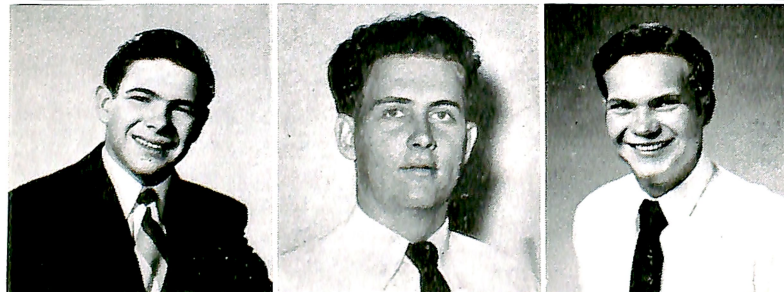
LESLIE TALBERT
Major: Band
Clarinet



WILLIAM HUTCHINSON
Major: Speech, Voice
Trombone

EDWIN McKEE
Major: Business
Trumpet

DALE TREIDER
Major: Liberal Arts
Trombone



SHERROD REAVIS
Major: Chemistry
French Horn

WALLACE GOODMAN
Major: Business
Sousaphone

HERSHEL ALLEN
Major: Pre-Med
Bass Clarinet

West Texas State College

Office of the President

August 10, 1947

Expansion Committee of
Kappa Kappa Psi
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Dear Sirs:

I understand that our local band fraternity, Omega Tau, is applying to the national fraternity for a charter for a chapter at this institution. This is to inform you that such action on the part of our local band organization meets my hearty approval.

We are in an expansion era in the matter of band organization and development and feel that membership in the national organization would materially strengthen our efforts. The young men who are sponsoring this application are in every way trustworthy and capable, and I commend their petition to your favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,
J. A. Hill.

Office of the Dean

August 14, 1947

Expansion Committee
Kappa Kappa Psi
Attention: A. Frank Martin
Grand National Secretary
Oklahoma Agricultural & Mechanical College
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Martin:

The Omega Tau Band Fraternity on this campus is making application for affiliation to Kappa Kappa Psi, and I wish to state that this application meets with the approval of the administration and faculty of this college.

We shall appreciate the consideration given to the application, for we know that Omega Tau has been doing a excellent piece of work on the campus under the very able leadership of Mr. Millard J. Newman.

If I can give additional information or be of service in any way, I shall be glad to have you call upon me.

Yours very sincerely,
D. A. Shirley, Dean.

Department of Music

August 12, 1947

Expansion Committee
Kappa Kappa Psi.

Gentlemen:

Our local band fraternity, Omega Tau, is petitioning the national fraternity, Kappa Kappa Psi, for a chapter on the campus of this college, and I am assuring you of my sincere support. These are earnest, ambitious students who believe the interests of the college and music in general will be furthered by this designation. May I ask your serious and sympathetic consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

Wallace R. Clark,
Head Dept. Music,
W. T. S. C.

August 20, 1947

Expansion Committee
Kappa Kappa Psi Fraternity

Gentlemen:

Since their organization, Omega Tau has given our band considerable assistance and support. Individually, they represent the finest element in the band, and collectively, they have proven themselves invaluable. I heartily commend them to your consideration for affiliation with your fine organization.

Sincerely yours,

M. J. Newman,
Band Director.

Department of Music

August 12, 1917

Expansion Committee
Kappa Kappa Psi

Dear Sirs:

The East Coast University College, Inc. is petitioning the national headquarters Kappa Kappa Psi for a chapter on the campus of this college. We are showing you of my sincere support. These are earnest, able individuals who believe the interests of the college and music in general will be advanced by our organization. May I ask your serious and wise consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

William R. Child,
Head Dept. Music,
W. T. S. C.

August 20, 1917

Expansion Committee
Kappa Kappa Psi Fraternity

Dear Sirs:

Since their organization, Chicago Tio has given our band considerable assistance and support. Individually, they represent the finest chorists in the band, and collectively, they have proven themselves invaluable. I heartily commend them to your consideration for affiliation with your organization.

Sincerely yours,

M. J. Newman,
Band Director.

